



**MICHIGAN STATE YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION
KOHL'S US YOUTH SOCCER AMERICAN CUP
MUSKEGON, MI
2010 COMPETITION RULES**



1. Format

- a. The MSYSA Kohl's American Cup will be conducted using a "round robin" format.
- b. Each team will be scheduled to play three (3) games (or four games if agreed upon by the teams involved).
- c. MSYSA assumes all rights and responsibilities when selecting teams for participation for the Kohl's American Cup.

2. Scheduling Conflicts

- a. MSYSA Kohl's American Cup games take precedence over all scheduled MSYSA affiliated league games.
- b. All games scheduled by MSYSA member leagues are required to be rescheduled to permit all teams to compete in the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup.
- c. No MSYSA member league can forfeit any game of any team for the day that the team is playing in the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup competition.

3. Team Eligibility and Rosters

- a. The MSYSA Kohl's American Cup is for current Michigan recreational teams. A recreational team is defined as:
 - The use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players selectively to any team on the basis of talent or ability **is prohibited**.
 - Your league accepts as participant's any and all eligible youth (subject to reasonable terms of registration).
- b. Non-recreational teams may be selected by MSYSA for participation if MSYSA deems that the team's competitive ability is appropriate for the tournament. MSYSA's decision is final.
- c. Non-MSYSA teams are eligible to play, however MSYSA teams will be given priority if the tournament fills up.
- d. With the submission of the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup application, the applicant certifies that at least 50% of the team's players are residents of Michigan.
- e. The team's original league roster serves as the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup roster.
- f. A maximum of 5 guest players are permitted in all age groups.
- g. A player may only play for one team in the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup competition.
- h. A MSYSA Kohl's American Cup roster can have a maximum of 8 players or a minimum of 5 players for U8 teams, a maximum of 11 players or a minimum of 6 players for U9/U10 teams, a maximum of 14 players or a minimum of 7 players for U11/U12 teams, and a maximum of 18 players or a minimum of 7 players for U13/U14 teams.

4. Scheduling and Bracketing

- a. All U8 teams (boys, girls, coed teams) will placed into the same bracket.
- b. U9 and U10 teams may be scheduled to play in the same age bracket. Similarly, U11 and U12 teams may be scheduled for the same age bracket, and U13 and U14 teams may be scheduled for the same bracket.
- c. Teams should not be scheduled to play more than two games on any one given day.
- d. All teams will be scheduled in the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup by double blind draw by the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup Committee (i.e. the name of the team is drawn out of one bowl and its position in the appropriate division of the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup bracket is drawn out of a second bowl).
- e. Scores and standings will not be kept, nor will individual trophies be awarded. However, participation medals will be awarded to all players.
- f. Requests for particular game days and/or times will not be entertained.

5. Referees

- a. MSYSA will assign referees for all MSYSA Kohl's American Cup games.
- b. The center referee for each game must be at least one year older than the players and all referees should be USSF certified.

c. MSYSA is responsible for the payment of all referee fees.

6. Laws of the Game

- a. FIFA Laws of the Game will govern **all** games unless modified by USSF, US Youth Soccer, or the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup Tournament Director or Designee.
- b. Refer to MSYSA Small-Sided Games Guidelines for rules specific to U8, U9/U10, and U11/U12 age groups.
- c. Modification(s) may be made with or without notice.

7. Game Duration

- a. Length of game shall be determined by US Youth Soccer and/or MSYSA Kohl's American Cup rules as detailed below:

AGE GROUP	GAME LENGTH	BALL SIZE	FORMAT	ROSTER MAX.
U14	25 MIN. HALVES	5	11 v 11	18
U13	25 MIN. HALVES	5	11 v 11	18
U12	25 MIN. HALVES	4	8 V 8	14
U11	25 MIN. HALVES	4	8 V 8	14
U10	25 MIN. HALVES	4	6 V 6	11
U9	25 MIN. HALVES	4	6 V 6	11
U8	12 MIN QUARTERS	3	5 v 5	8

- b. In the event that a game is called by the referee, the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup Tournament Director, or Designee due to inclement weather and/or other circumstances as deemed necessary by the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup Tournament Director or Designee, games may be considered complete after any portion of the 2nd half has been played.

8. Uniforms

- a. With the exception of the goalkeeper, each player shall wear differently numbered and similarly designed jerseys.
- b. Goalkeepers must wear colors that differentiate them from the field players.
- c. Unless otherwise specified, all MSYSA and US Youth Soccer rules regarding uniform acceptability will apply.
- d. In cases of dispute over color, socks, or shorts; the referee will decide. The home team shall wear light jerseys and the visiting team shall wear dark jerseys.

9. Warnings, Sendoffs, and Disciplinary Actions

- a. A team receiving three red cards (or more) or five yellow cards (or more) in one game may result in the team coach to appear before the MSYSA Board of Directors for review and/or sanctions.
- b. Game suspensions received in "Cup Game(s)" will be served during the next "Cup Game(s)."
- c. If a player or coach receives a suspension in a Cup Game(s) and the suspension is not fulfilled during that year it will follow the player or coach to the next Cup Game(s) that the player or coach participates in.
- d. Minimum Disciplinary Sanctions:
 - Player, Coach, or Team Official Ejection for Foul & Abusive Language: Minimum two game suspension
 - Player Ejection for Violent Conduct or Serious Foul Play: Minimum two game suspension
 - Player, Coach, or Team Official Ejection for Accumulation of Two Yellow Cards: Minimum one game suspension
 - Player Fighting: Minimum two game suspension.
 - Player, Coach, or Team Official Striking an Official: Immediate and minimum one-year suspension from all soccer activities (separate hearing).
 - Coach Threats: Minimum two game suspension.
 - Coach Fighting: Minimum two game suspension.
- f. If considered serious enough, a player, coach, or team official may face additional sanctions for other offenses as determined by the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup Tournament Director or Designee.

10. Spectators

- a. Coaches are responsible for the spectators that accompany his or her team.
- b. Spectators will occupy the side of the field opposite the side the teams are located.
- c. If it becomes evident that the spectator(s) become unruly and cannot be controlled, the field sidelines will be cleared of all spectators. If spectators refuse to leave the field of play, the game will be suspended and perhaps forfeited upon an investigation by the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup Tournament Director or Designee.
- d. Coaches should remind their team's spectators of the \$1,000 bond that may be levied against a team as a result of unacceptable spectator behavior or referee abuse.

11. Field of Play

- a. Teams will report to the "field of play" at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start of game.
- b. Both teams are to be seated on the same side of the field.

12. Field Status

- a. Determination of field status as to its playing condition first rests with the organization providing the fields. Prior to any decision to close the field, they must consult with the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup Tournament Director or Designee. Their decision is final.
- b. If the host organization approves the field for play, the field may be cancelled at a later time if the host organization and MSYSA Kohl's American Cup Tournament Director or Designee deems the conditions to have changed.
- c. The referee, MSYSA Kohl's American Cup Tournament Director, and/or Tournament Director Designee may suspend games when he/she considers the field unsafe or unplayable.
- d. In the event of inclement weather, everything possible will be done to provide games to teams that travel. However, games cannot be guaranteed. Teams that travel to MSYSA Kohl's American Cup locations do so at their own risk of games being cancelled due to inclement weather. There are no refunds for tournament cancellation due to inclement weather.

13. Non-MSYSA Affiliated Teams

- a. This MSYSA Kohl's American Cup is open to any recreational team, provided that the team meets all eligibility requirements.
- b. Non-MSYSA affiliated teams, including players and team officials, who participate in the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup are NOT covered under MSYSA insurance.

14. Spirit of the Game

- a. If the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup Tournament Director or Designee determines that a particular action by a team or any of its members or spectators is deemed unacceptable for any reason, the team may be disqualified, sanctioned, and/or face forfeiture of one or more games.

15. Alcohol and Illegal Drugs

- a. Players and coaches in the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup are prohibited from consuming alcohol or using illegal drugs.
- b. Players and coaches are also prohibited from using any form of tobacco at the playing site of the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup competition. The penalty for violation by player and/or coach may be disqualification from the MSYSA Kohl's American Cup competition.

AGE GROUP ELIGIBILITY CHART

SEASONAL YEAR

2009-2010

Under 14	Born Between	8-1-95 to 7-31-96
Under 13	Born Between	8-1-96 to-7-31-97
Under 12	Born Between	8-1-97 to-7-31-98
Under 11	Born Between	8-1-98 to 7-31-99
Under 10	Born Between	8-1-99 to 7-31-00
Under 09	Born Between	8-1-00 to 7-31-01
Under 08	Born Between	8-1-01 to 7-31-02

Dates To Remember

April 23, 2010	Early Registration Deadline (\$25 Discount)
May 14, 2010	Application Deadline
June 1, 2010	Roster Deadline
June 1, 2010	Guest Player Roster Deadline
June 12-13, 2010	MSYSA Kohl's American Cup – Muskegon, MI